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## Facsimile

To: MAIL STOP RCE

Examiner Lyle Alexander, Group Art Unit: 1743

Fax No.: (703) 872-9306

From: George M. Macdonald

Date: April 20, 2004

Subject: Serial No.: 09/683,380

Pages: \_\_10\_\_ (including this cover)

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APR 20 2004

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/683,380  
Our Docket # F-441

Enclosed please find a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and  
Amendment in the above referenced application.

### CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

# OFFICIAL

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Attention: MAIL STOP RCE

Examiner Lyle Alexander, Group Art Unit: 1743

Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306

1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) (1 page);
2. Amendment Transmittal Letter (2 pages); and
3. Amendment (6 pages).

on April 20, 2004  
Date of Transmission

George M. Macdonald  
Name of Registered Rep.  
Reg. No.: 39,284

  
Signature

April 20, 2004  
Date

PTO/SB/30 (09-03)  
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b>  Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/683,380
	Filing Date	12/19/2001
	First Named Inventor	Robert A. Cordery
	Art Unit	1743
	Examiner Name	Lyle Alexander
	Attorney Docket Number	F-441

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to:

a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 16-1885

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED</b>			
Name (Print/Type)	<u>George M. MacDonald</u>	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	<u>39,284</u>
Signature	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>4/20/04</u>

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b>			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.			
Name (Print/Type)	<u>George M. MacDonald</u>	Date	<u>4/20/04</u>
Signature	<u>[Signature]</u>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

AGE 2/10 \* RCVD AT 4/20/2004 7:14:11 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/4 \* DNIS:8729306 \* CSID:203 924 3919 \* DURATION (mm-ss):03-52

Serial No.: 09/683,380  
Attorney Docket No.: F-441

Patent

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Robert A. Cordery, et al.

Serial No.: 09/683,380  
Filed: December 19, 2001  
Confirmation # 7715

) Attorney Docket No.: F-441  
) Customer No.: 00919  
)  
) Examiner: ALEXANDER, Lyle  
) Group Art Unit: 1743  
)  
) Date: April 20, 2004

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DETECTING BIOLOGICAL AND  
CHEMICAL HAZARDS IN NETWORKED INCOMING MAILBOXES

**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO BOX 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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APR 20 2004

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

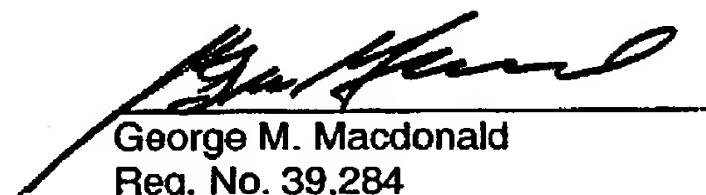
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	-	Highest Number Previously Paid For	=	Number of Extra Claims Present	X	Rate	=	Additional Fee
Total Claims	20	-	20	=	0	X	\$18.00	=	0.00
Independent Claims	3	-	3	=	0	X	\$86.00	=	0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT									0.00

Serial No.: 09/683,380  
Attorney Docket No.: F-441

Patent

No additional fee is believed due.

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account Number  
**16-1885.**


  
George M. Macdonald  
Reg. No. 39,284  
Attorney of Record  
Telephone (203) 924-3180

PITNEY BOWES INC.  
Intellectual Property and Technology Law Department  
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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, on April 20, 2004 (Date of Transmission).

George M. Macdonald, Reg. No. 39,284 (Name of Registered Rep.)

 (Signature)      April 20, 2004 (Date)